

City of Hunters Creek Village Phone: 713-465-2150 www.cityofhunterscreek.com

HELLO SPORTS FANS!

Been awhile since my last update, miss me?

Less than 2 weeks till Christmas, so start freaking out...

Football's over. **Aggies in shambles, Texas illegitimately** bought their way into playoff, horrible football year all around. On to basketball....

Things are kinda quiet here at City Hall. Staff finishing up end of year stuff and all's good. Thanks to really good planning, forecasting and Stewardship by Staff and Council, we have a healthy ending balance in our account and we've finished the years projects within or below budget.

We're gonna need that money for some badly needed road repair all over the Village and hopefully going to get some County and Federal money for badly needed Memorial Drive repair as well.

Here below are a few housekeeping items of note:

- -We were very fortunate weather-wise this year with no bad storms or Hurricanes, so we've continued outfall and drainage repairs as needed as well as identified next year's projects to complete in that department. Yes, it was hot and dry, and we lost many trees, so keep an eye out for dying or diseased trees and call City Hall to see if you need a permit for removal.
- -Regarding dead trees, I've started a new deal where if it's a good firewood tree (anything but Pine), get your tree guy to cut the limbs that are 6" to 10" diameter into logs 12-15" in length, and we'll come pick them up or they can drop off behind City Hall and we'll split them for firewood for anyone that wants firewood. This saves room in the landfills and good for the environment. You know me, always saving the whales and baby seals....
- -Remember, we have smokers, BBQ grills and firepits behind City Hall for your Holiday functions/parties...it's FREE \$\$...
- -City Hall is lit up again with wonderful Holiday lights, it's Magical... So is the pocket park at Memorial at Saddlewood, thanks to Sheri and Wayne Gross for doing that again!
- -There will be the usual Farmer's Market every Saturday thru New Year's, as well as a special Christmas Market Wednesday night market on Dec. 20th, I'll send a reminder.
- -We will have a specially marked dumpster behind City Hall after New Years for Christmas tree drop-off and recycling. Don't throw your tree in the trash, drop it off in our dumpster for recycling...again, saving the environment.
- -As everyone knows, we have tons of new homes under construction all over the place. We're letting all the contractors know about Holiday working hours so as to minimize noise/mess over the Holiday. FYI, those hours are: 8:00am 7:00pm M-F & Sat. 9:00am 6:00pm. NO WORK ON SUNDAY or HOLIDAY (Dec 25th & 26th, Jan 1st)
- -This Thursday is the MVPD Twinkle Light Parade. See attached flyer for routes. Bring the kids out to watch and meet up at MDPC afterwards for some Cocoa!

- -Indy 500 raceway drunk racetrack (Voss Road) continues to rack up wrecks, with our new light pole at Beinhorn being the latest victim. MVPD will be increasing policing on Voss, as Holiday drunks are all over the road.
- -2nd phase of Voss esplanades south of I-10 finished and looks great. More to come next year, starting from the southern entrance to our Village.

We hosted our annual Holiday party at City Hall for our staff and wonderful volunteers to thank them for all they do all year. At 10:30am, an hour before the party started, I got a call from our City Manager that the catering restaurant forgot our order and we had no food....100 people coming in an hour and no food.... Panic time. After a quick pivot, we got Collina's on Brogdon to whip up 50 pizzas and salad and we never missed a beat, though we were nervous for a while. After the dust settled, it hit me that this was the worst thing that had happened to us this year!

With all the madness/insanity/lunacy/evil going on in our City, State, Country and World, this was the worst thing all year...How blessed are we????

I start every Council meeting with a prayer for GOD to protect our Police, Fire, Staff and our Village from evil and harm. You know what...It works every time!

OK, that's all I got. Merry Christmas, Happy Hannukah, Happy New Year, now working on my Christmas poem.... stay tuned.

Mayor Jim Pappas